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REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ITEM IN THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

UNITED NATIONS INTERIM OFFICES

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Secretary-General has the honour to request, pursuant to rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the provisional agenda of the forty-eighth session of an item of an important character, entitled "United Nations interim offices". Owing to the nature of the item, the Secretary-General further requests that it be considered directly in plenary.

2. In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum concerning the request is annexed to this letter.

ANNEX

Explanatory Memorandum

1. It will be recalled that in 1992 the Secretary-General asked the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to establish United Nations interim offices in a number of countries of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

2. Since the Secretary-General decided to establish interim offices in certain countries, various aspects of this question have been examined in different committees and organs of the General Assembly. The Assembly, in its decision 47/469, referred to the need for a policy decision to be taken on this matter at its forty-eighth session.

3. Wishing to facilitate an integrated and comprehensive consideration of the matter by the General Assembly on the basis of a broad policy-oriented report which he has prepared, the Secretary-General accordingly requests the inclusion of an item entitled "United Nations interim offices" in the provisional agenda of the forty-eighth session of the Assembly.